

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JIDDA 06340 301411Z
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S E C R E T JIDDA 6340

EXDIS DISTRIBUTE AS NODIS

FOR SAUNDERS FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, SA, US
SUBJECT: FURTHER THOUGHTS ABOUT MIDDLE EAST PEACE: SAUDI ARABIA,
YAR AND CAMP DAVID

REF: A. STATE 211406
B. JIDDA 6233
C. JIDDA 5961
D. JIDDA 6140
E. JIDDA 6137

1. WE HAVE BEEN GIVING FURTHER THOUGHT AND HAVE ATTEMPTED
TO SENSE FROM CONVERSATION AND CONTACTS WITH KNOWLEDGEABLE
SAUDIS AS TO BEST WAYS OF INSURING MAINTENANCE OF PRESENT
BEST EVER RELATIONSHIP REGARDLESS OF OUTCOME OF CAMP
DAVID SUMMIT IN ACCORDANCE WITH YOUR REQUEST (REF A).

2. WE SUGGEST THE FOLLOWING POSSIBLE SCENARIO FOR YOUR
CONSIDERATION WITH FOLLOWING BASIC PREMISES IN MIND:

(A) THE SAUDI SUPPORT FOR CAMP DAVID SUMMIT HAS BEEN FAR
BEYOND WHAT WAS EXPECTED, REGARDLESS OF MOTIVES

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AS DISCUSSED IN REF B.

(
B) SAUDI SUPPORT FOR THE PEACE PROCESS IS
IMPORTANT. SAUDI MONEY COULD PROVIDE LUBRICA-
TION FOR THE MOVEMENT OF SYRIA, JORDAN AND PLO IF
WE GET CLOSE TO A REASONABLE SETTLEMENT.

(C) THE SAUDIS ARE MORE IMMEDIATELY CONCERNED WITH SOVIET THREAT TO THEIR EXISTENCE, PRESENTLY EXEMPLIFIED BY SITUATION IN YEMENS, THAN THEY ARE WITH INSTANT SOLUTION OF ARAB-ISRAELI DISPUTE.

(D) THE FOSTERING OF THE PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND THE KING AND/OR CROWN PRINCE IS AN IMPORTANT ELEMENT IN THE FUTURE OF OUR BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP (REF E).

3. GIVEN THESE ASSUMPTIONS, WE SUGGEST THE FOLLOWING:

(A) THAT THE PRESIDENT RESPOND IMMEDIATELY TO THE KING'S LETTER ON CAMP DAVID SUMMIT. RESPONSE MAY PROPERLY INCLUDE EXPRESSION OF APPRECIATION FOR WHOLEHEARTED SUPPORT GIVEN BY SAG, AN ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF HIS MAJESTY SENDING PERSONNAL EMISSARIES TO OTHER ARAB COUNTRIES AND THE SUPPORT WHICH HAS FLOWED THEREFROM.

(B) RECEIPT OF LETTER ON YEMEN SHOULD BE ACKNOWLEDGED. FACT OF PRESIDENT'S BEING ON BRIEF VACATION WELL KNOWN HERE, SO SIMPLE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF YEMEN LETTER AND PROMISE THAT IT WILL BE GIVEN SERIOUS, WHOLEHEARTED CONSIDERATION WOULD BE SUFFICIENT.

(C) SUGGEST THEN THAT PRESIDENT SAY THAT HE
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IS CONSIDERING SENDING SPECIAL ENVOY TO INFORM HIS MAJESTY OF RESULTS OF CAMP DAVID AND HE WILL ALSO ASK THIS ENVOY TO EXPLORE IN DETAIL THE SITUATION IN YEMEN, INCLUDING A POSSIBLE VISIT BY ENVOY TO SANA.

(D) RECOGNIZING THAT WE ARE BEING PRESUMPTUOUS, WE SUGGEST THAT SPECIAL DELEGATION BE CONSTITUTED WITH YOU, HAMILTON J, AND BILL CRAWFORD.

(E) WE SUGGEST JORDAN BECAUSE OF HIS CLOSE IDENTITY WITH THE PRESIDENT AND BECAUSE OF EXCELLENT IMPRESSION HE MADE DURING JANUARY PRESIDENTIAL VISIT, FOOLLOWED BY HIS WORK WITH SAG REPRESENTATIVES DURING F-15 CONTROVERSARY. BOTH PRINCE TURKI AND PRINCE BANDAR HAVE IN RECENT TIMES EXPRESSED A DESIRE TO US TO HAVE HIM VISIT KINGDOM. THIS SEEMS TO PRESENT UNUSUALLY GOOD OPPORTUNITY.

(F) WE THINK PSYCHOLOGICAL IMPACT OF SERIES OF RANKING USG OFFICIALS VISITING HERE AND SANA WILL DO MUCH TO OFFSET FAILURE TO MEET ALL OF YAR REQUESTS, ESPECIALLY OF SOME PARTS CAN BE ASSURED OF ACCOMMODATION. IT WILL ALSO TEND TO PUT IN SAUDI PERSPECTIVE ANY ARAB DISAPPOINTMENTS FLOWING FROM

CAMP DAVID RESULTS (REF B).

(G) WE THINK IT WOULD BE ESPECIALLY APPROPRIATE TO HAVE A VISIT FROM BILL CRAWFORD IN VIEW OF HIS PRESENT POSITION AND PREVIOUS SERVICE IN YAR. IT MAY BE BEST TO HAVE HIM MAKE A SEPERATE FOLLOW-UP VISIT AFTER INITIAL SAUNDERS-JORDAN TRIP.

4. FORMIN SAUD IS LEAVING FOR STATES ABOUT SEPTEMBER 12 WITH FAMILY FOR OPENING OF U.N. SESSION PLUS VACATION. HE WILL PROBABLY NOT RETURN UNTIL MID-OCTOBER. THEREFORE, HE WILL NOT BE IN KINGDOM TO RECEIVE REPORT. SUGGEST THAT WE EXPLORE WITH HIM POSSIBILITY OF MEETING IN U.S. LWITH SECRETARY TO RECEIVE FULL REPORT ON CAMP DAVID AND DISCUSS
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YEMEN.

5. WE WILL FURNISH OTHER THOUGHTS AS THEY OCCUR. OUR PRIDE OF AUTHORSHIP IS MINIMAL SO WE AREN'T OFFENDED WHEN SUGGESTIONS ARE DISCARDED OR EVEN IGNORED*
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